and the remedial action including taking up the staff responsible for causing the complaints is taken. During 1994-95 and 1995-96, 2,407 and 2,252 members of railway staff respectively were taken up. In the specific instance referred to in the newspaper item, the enquiry was promptly conducted by Northern Railway and prima facie, no railway staff was found responsible. Regular steps are also taken to improve/streamline the passenger facilitation at the stations on a programmed basis by earmarking separate funds for passengers amenities.

**Setting up of Local Radio Station and Low Power Transmitters**

1383. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI :
SHRI KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had set up the Local Radio Stations and Low Power Transmitters on the recommendations of the Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, the date on which these were installed and expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether the above Local Radio Stations and the LPTs are functioning;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (e) Requests for establishment of TV/Radio Transmitters etc., are received from time to time from various quarters including MPs/VIPs. Such requests are kept in view while identifying the locations of new Transmitters. Criteria for deciding locations of new Transmitters include factors such as extent of resultant coverage, terrain conditions of the areas, linguistic and cultural needs of the area, technical feasibility, availability of financial/infrastructural resources etc.

At present, 638 Low Power TV Transmitters and 73 Local Radio Stations are under operation. Apart from this, 18 Local Radio Stations are under various stages of implementation. Some of these Transmitters/Local Radio Stations are relaying only part transmission or not relaying transmission regularly due to non-sanctioning of adequate staff for these stations. Action has already been initiated for early sanction of staff.

**Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic Dispensaries/Hospitals**

1384. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Allopathic dispensaries/hospitals functioning under the Railways, separately; zone-wise;

(b) whether the number of Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries are petty low in comparison with the Allopathic dispensaries;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the posts of Homoeopathic/Ayurvedic doctors are lying vacant particularly in Delhi;

(e) if so, the details thereof dispensary-wise and zone-wise; and

(f) the time by which these vacant posts are likely to be filled up alongwith the rules to be followed therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a)

***Statement***

| Railway/Production Unit | Homoeopathic Dispensaries | Ayurvedic Dispensaries | Allopathic Hospitals | Allopathic Health Units |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Central Railway | 15 | 2 | 16 | 80 |
| Eastern Railway | 17 | 10 | 14 (including CLW) | 54 |
| Northern Railway | 14 | 10 | 22 (including RCF, RDSO, DCW) | 101 |
| North Eastern Railway | 24 | 5 | 10 (including DLW) | 51 |
| Northeast Frontier Railway | 8 | 2 | 10 | 50 |
| Southern Railway | 8 | 3 | 15 (Including ICF, Wheel and Axle Plant) | 63 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| South Central Railway | 3 | 3 | 6 | 56 |
| South Eastern Railway | 14 | Nil | 13 | 83 |
| Western Railway | 11 | 1 | 16 | 81 |
| Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala | 1 | Nil | | |
| Wheel and Axle Plant, Bangalore | Nil | 1 | | |
| Total | 115 | 37 | 122 | 619 + 51 Lock Up dispensaries |

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A large network of hospitals and health units has been provided on the Indian Railways to provide regular medicare to Railway Servants under the modern system of medicine i.e. Allopathy. In addition, as a measure of staff amenity and for promoting indigenous systems of medicine, Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries have been set up under the aegis of Staff Benefit Fund which caters to various staff welfare activities. Opening of these dispensaries depends on the demand for treatment under these systems as also the availability of funds under the Staff Benefit Fund. These Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic dispensaries do not form a part of the medicare provided by the Ministry of Railways.

(d) and (e) One post of Homoeopathy doctor is lying vacant at Chakradharpur (South Eastern Railway) and one post of Ayurvedic doctor is lying vacant at Purna (South Central Railway).

(f) The vacant posts will be filled up as soon as suitable candidates are available. The qualification for appointment as Homoeopathic/Ayurvedic physicians in the dispensaries functioning under the aegis of the Staff Benefit Fund is five years' experience after acquiring the Four-Year Diploma/Degree Course in the respective system of medicine.

**Railway Property Damaged by Earthquake**

1385. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the major part of Central Railway has been affected by an earthquake in Narmada Ghati region in Madhya Pradesh on May 22, 1997;

(b) if so, the details of Railway property damaged thereby alongwith the loss suffered as result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to repair the damaged railway property alongwith the finance assistance given therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A large number of residential quarters and service buildings in and around Jabalpur area sustained major damages. Among them, 287 residential quarters, the station buildings at Madan Mahal and Bharaghat and the cabins at Jabalpur, Kachhpura and Adhartal require re-building. Besides these, 637 residential quarters and a number of duty bunks at various Level Crossings need to be repaired. The total cost of repairs/ re-building of damages is presently estimated to be around Rs. 10.50 crore.

(c) Restoration work has been taken up.

*[English]*

**Import of Power from Pakistan**

1386. SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :
SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to enter into an agreement with Pakistan to buy power to meet the country's demand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of power, India proposes to import from Pakistan;

(d) the rate at which it is likely to be imported and the areas it will service in India;

(e) the time by which the negotiations are likely to be completed;

(f) whether the Power problem of India can be solved by getting power from the neighbouring countries including Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?